ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus automatically locks the doors of a vehicle based on mutual communications between a portable unit and a vehicle-side control unit. After the doors are closed and locked after all the passengers get off the vehicle, the user of a portable unit unlocks the doors in order to allow a person without the portable unit to fetch something left in the vehicle. After the person opens a door, takes whatever he or she needs, and closes the door, the doors are automatically locked. When a door sensor is operated to unlock the doors, and one of the doors is opened, a memory means stores information indicating that the portable unit is present in a predetermined range outside of the vehicle. If the memory means stores information that the doors are unlocked, then the doors are automatically locked.